

Councilperson Ann Kobayashi,

Chair Budget Committee

Honolulu City Council, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Council Chair, Kobayashi and Members of the Budget Committee

Mahalo for allowing me to submit my view

Testimony AGAINST Bill 69-designed to place billboards on buses.

HAWAII IS TOO BEAUTIFUL FOR EXTERIOR BUS BILLBOARDS

- According to predeterminations by no-other than the City and County of Honolulu, itself, bus billboards would be difficult to regulate by the sheer numbers of litigants it would spawn. Wouldn't the court expenses cancel any profits to the City that should be realized by this ill-conceived proposal?
- It was as long ago as 1927 that Hawai'i enacted the first law in the nation to ban billboards.
- The City & County of Honolulu was also one of the first cities in the U.S. to regulate signs. In 1970 our own City Council had the foresight to extend that regulation to prohibit aerial advertising.
- 1971 saw the beginning of a municipal bus system that has been touted by visitors and residents as a user-friendly service. That City Council rejected a proposal to generate revenue by exterior bus advertising.
- In 1994 and 2003 the City Council again rejected exterior bus advertising. Incidentally, our current Mayor wrote, in 2003, a full typewritten page of reasons NOT to pursue this proposal

HOW MANY TIMES MUST OUR CITY SAY "no" to exterior bus advertising.

By the way, it was promised that someone on the Budget Committee would solicit aid to search for alternate solutions to this proposal. So far, we have not heard of such a study.

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Can we not value our lovely `aina enough to protect against prostituting it?

Will the current administration wish to be remembered as the "Hawaii scene-wrecker" OR as the protector and keeper of a CITY BEAUTIFUL for all the people it serves?

CITY BUDGET COMMITTEE, PLEASE STOP THIS BILL IN YOUR COMMITTEE.

CITY COUNCIL: "NO" TO EXTERIOR BUS BILLBOARDS

Help us Keep Hawai'i Clean, Green, and Beautiful

Thank-you for allowing me to testify in fervent opposition to Bill 69.

Susan Bright Spangler

The Outdoor Circle